

First reading

Isaiah 43:16-21

Thus says the LORD, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, who brings forth chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: 'Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. The wild beasts will honour me, the jackals and the ostriches, for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, the people whom I formed for myself that they might declare my praise.'

Responsorial Psalm What great deeds the LORD worked for us! Indeed, we were glad. Ps 126

1. When the LORD brought back the exiles of Sion, 2. Then they said among the nations,
we thought we were dreaming. 'What great deeds the LORD worked for them!'
Then was our mouth filled with laughter; What great deeds the LORD worked for us!
on our tongues, songs of joy. Indeed, we were glad.
3. Bring back our exiles, O LORD, 4. They go out, they go out, full of tears,
as streams in the Negeb. bearing seed for the sowing;
Those who are sowing in tears they come back, they come back with a song,
will sing when they reap. bearing their sheaves.

Second reading

Philippians 3:8-14

Brothers and Sisters: I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith — that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on towards the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation

Even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, for I am gracious and merciful.

Gospel

John 8:1-11

At that time: Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. Early in the morning he came again to the temple. All the people came to him, and he sat down and taught them. The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery, and placing her in the midst they said to him, 'Teacher, this woman has been caught in the act of adultery. Now in the Law, Moses commanded us to stone such women. So what do you say?' This they said to test him, that they might have some charge to bring against him. Jesus bent down and wrote with his finger on the ground. And as they continued to ask him, he stood up and said to them, 'Let him who is without sin among you be the first to throw a stone at her.' And once more he bent down and wrote on the ground. But when they heard it, they went away one by one, beginning with the older ones, and Jesus was left alone with the woman standing before him. Jesus stood up and said to her, 'Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?' She said, 'No one, Lord.' And Jesus said, 'Neither do I condemn you; go, and from now on sin no more.'

The Newsletter of the Parishes of St Alban's Pelaw & St Patrick's Felling



St Alban's at Pelaw



St Patrick's at Felling



Our School at Pelaw

Part of the John Ingram Partnership of Parishes

Fr Martin Stempczyk St Patrick's Presbytery, 9, High Street, Felling, Gateshead NE10 9LT

Deacon Kevin Atkinson

Parish E-Mail: stpatrick.felling@diocesehn.org.uk Tel: 0191 - 4952277
Parish Website: www.stpatricks-felling.co.uk
School Website: <https://stalbanspelaw.bwcet.com/> Tel: 0191 - 4693251
Diocesan Website: www.diocesehn.org.uk
Chaplain to the QE: **Deacon Paul Nichol** Tel: 0191 - 4452072

The Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle Registered Charity Number: 1143450

5th Sunday of Lent Year C - 6th April 2025

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS					
Sat	5 th	5 th Sun of Lent C	St A	6.00pm	Marian Morton
Sun	6 th		St P	10.00am	People of the Parishes
Mon	7 th	Weekday of Lent	St P	10.00am	Norman Foster
Tue	8 th	Weekday of Lent			No Service
Wed	9 th	Weekday of Lent	St A	10.00am	Fr Phil Carroll
Thu	10 th	Weekday of Lent	St P	10.00am	Catherine Diamond-Webb
Fri	11 th	Weekday of Lent	St P	12.30pm	Requiem Mass: George Laurie
Sat	12 th	Palm Sunday	St A	6.00pm	People of the Parish
Sun	13 th		St P	10.00am	Ken & Brida Clay
St A = St Alban's; St P = St Patrick's Weekday Masses at St Patrick's are Celebrated in the Parish Centre Weekday Masses at St Alban's are Celebrated in the Chapel in the Presbytery Sacrament of Reconciliation: Available on Request					

We pray for all those who are sick or unwell at this time. We pray for **George Laurie** and **Elaine Lowery** who died recently. A Requiem Mass for George will take place on Friday 11 April 12.30pm, at St Patrick's, followed by cremation at Saltwell Crematorium. A funeral service for Elaine will take place on Monday 14th April 1pm at St Patrick's, followed by burial at Heworth Burn Cemetery. May they rest in peace.

The Order of Mass can be found on **Page 200**
in the **middle of your Hymn Books** indicated by the grey page markers.
During Lent the Gloria is not said and we use the Apostles Creed, on page 205.

Journeying with the Word of God

‘Has no one condemned you? Neither do I condemn you.’

Having journeyed through Lent for four weeks, I may well feel in need of the reassuring words of Isaiah (**First Reading**). Just as the Lord promised to give abundant water to sustain the exiles from Babylon on their journey home, he will also guide me through the rest of Lent, supporting me with spiritual food and drink. In gratitude, I pray the response to the **Psalm**: ‘What great deeds the Lord worked for us, indeed we were glad’, recalling the joy of the exiles as they returned to their country.

Paul reminds us that ‘I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord’. He is aware that he needs not try for perfection by his own efforts. I take comfort in this, and forgetting the past, look forward to what is still to come (**Second Reading**).

Jesus defuses a tense and potentially violent situation by forgiving the woman who sinned, and then turning the tables on her accusers:

‘Let him who is without sin among you be the first to throw a stone at her’ (**Gospel**). Although he does not condemn her, she is told ‘from now on sin no more’.

Perhaps this helps me in these last days of Lent to pray to the Lord that he be ‘my Saviour again and renew my joy’. I may also want to pray for all those people around me who still feel in exile, that the expectation of new life at Easter might help them to come home.

RCIA: The next RCIA Meeting for the John Ingram Partnership will take place on **Tuesday 8th April, 6.30pm** in the parish centre at St Patrick’s.

The Stations of the Cross will be celebrated **at St Alban’s on:**
Friday’s 11th April at 2.30pm, 18th April, (Good Friday) at 10.00am.

A Lenten Penitential Service for the partnership of parishes will be held at St Augustine’s church on **Wednesday 9 April, 6.30pm.**

St Alban’s School News: You are all very welcome to join us for our final Lenten service in St Alban’s Church on Friday 11th April at 2.30pm. *Please note the slightly earlier time.* The children from Y6 will lead us in prayer as we reflect on Jesus’ journey with the cross.

We will be cleaning St Alban’s on **Monday 14th April at 9.30 a.m.** for Easter. All volunteers most welcome. We would also welcome **donations for flowers** to decorate the Church for Easter. A basket will be left at the back of Church for this..

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available in **St Patrick’s Church** next Saturday, **12th April, 10.00am – 10.45am** for those who may wish to celebrate this.

The Collection for the sick and retired priests will take place as you leave church today.

Lenten Alms: During Lent we traditionally support the work of St Cuthbert’s Care. If you wish to do so, please use the basket marked at the back of church.

New Altar Servers: Parents whose children are in school Year 4 or above who would like their children to train to be altar servers are invited to let Fr Martin know.

National Catholic Leadership Programme: This programme is for serving Deputy Headteachers in Catholic Primary and Secondary schools who are considering the role of headteacher in the next two years. It is fantastic training for the role of Catholic Headteacher, delivered by inspirational leaders across our Diocese. Please contact education@diocesehn.org.uk for further information.

The Parish Quiz Night will now be held after Easter. More details to follow.

Your offerings are our sole source of income: We ask you to please consider **making your offering by Standing Order**. This is by far the easiest way to donate, either on a weekly or monthly basis. (Details below). If you pay income tax **why not consider “Gift Aiding” your offering**. **At no cost to you, the parish receives 25p for every £1.00 you donate.** All you need is to complete a simple Gift Aid form which may be obtained from the parish office at stpatrick.felling@diocesehn.org.uk

For St. Alban’s:

Account name: DHN Pelaw St Alban
Sort code: 40-34-18
Account No: 92010984

For St. Patrick’s:

Account name: DHN Felling St Patrick
Sort code: 40-34-18
Account No: 52010453

Gift Aid Envelopes for the **new financial year** are available for collection from the back of church. Non-Gift Aid envelopes are also available at St Patrick’s.

The Times of our Easter Services will be as Follows

Holy Thursday	Mass of the Lord’s Supper	7.00pm	at St Patrick’s
Good Friday	Stations of the Cross	10.00am	at St Alban’s
Good Friday	Celebration of the Passion	3.00pm	at St Patrick’s
Holy Saturday	Easter Vigil	6.00pm	at St Alban’s
Easter Sunday	Mass of Easter	10.00am	at St Patrick’s